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# County Life

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**Room with a view**
Visit the Corner Gallery
on page 3

**I hope you dance**
Free classes for everyone
on page 10

**Haliburton Highlands heritage**
Stanhope ready to open their doors to the public
on page 11

**Beautiful blooms**
The fleeting beauty of Minden's flowers are out in full force along the River Walk. Don't blink, or you'll miss them.
/EMILY STONEHOUSE

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# And I will write 500 words

**DEB REED**
*Wind in the Attic*

NOW I'VE been writing lately, thinking about the world as it is. And always in bunches of 500 words. My stories and editorials somehow match my own downsizing. This tired attention span recalibrates, perhaps because I focus less on detail, seeing both forest and trees. Age, energy, incessant headlines. The facts are grab-and-run now, whether I believe the news or not. Reality is perception and delusion after all! When barrages of opinion explode all over me, my senses stagger.

So I write small. Is it because I feel tinier in a scary world, or do I feel humble - and still a little powerful - in a beautiful one? Both. Neither. As my energy and patience adjust, simplicity just feels better. Same with listening to loudmouths. I now choose apples over haute cuisine. Camping over world travel. One no-nonsense conversation over a billion vacuous ones. Less chaos, more awareness.

Those closer to me know that my outlook gets impacted by wild political temperatures. My writing mirrors this rollercoaster. Plus my more recent conversations around trends in civilization, faith, ethos, psychology, environment, predictive science fiction, and now, the tenor of certain dystopic leadership. I'm increasingly urged towards art, music, nature and words. Nice words.

500 of them. My own discipline. My deliberate controls. My check-and-balance system. I can say everything through reduced packaging. All my intention is carefully wrapped in a puzzle box of half-a-thousand pieces. I can manage that number. Start to finish. It's like gardening. My plan, my sincerity, my commitment.

Yet… Weltschmerz still vacillates. I learned of world-weariness as a student, but didn't name it then. I remember Mum hunched and shushing while she rewatched black and white broadcasts of the Kennedy-King assassinations. Her raucous kids were disengaged. She wasn't. She'd been through war. Dad too, but he could separate emotions. Mum couldn't, and neither can modern me. Where are you, John Lennon? You somehow knew everything, though you were just another mortal. Tragically so.

The many sensitives among us struggle hard, not only with any dissonance, but even with the language for how our fractious relationship with world harmony can tip us sideways. I suddenly forget things, for example, or I startle with rush or noise unlike I ever used to beyond infancy. Just today, partner and I both concluded that we hadn't actually planted the special Mediterranean stringless green beans I'd brought home from the Danforth. We'd opened the packet, raked furrows, covered them over, and watered the veggie seeds daily. Still no germination. After three weeks! And beans were always what sprouted first for my hovering Grade 5s when asked to graph plant growth for math.

Two adult gardeners simultaneously blanking out… what were today's headlines??

I no longer drink in TV news. Counsel taken. Phone-media finds me anyway, subconsciously scrolling for even more. I'll become manic, tongue-tied, but want to talk. Discipline needed.

So. Thankfully. There's safety and beauty in 500 manageable words. I write them for my own hope.

County Life

**The following inserts are being distributed with County Life this week:**

**Canadian Tire ***

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**Todd's Independent ***

***All inserts are to selected distribution areas.***

For information on how your flyer can be inserted each week in County Life please contact Melissa Armstrong at **613-332-2002** or **melissa@haliburtonpress.com**

## Pride at Hal High

The students at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School wrapped up their annual Pride Week with a Colour Run, where students were given a white t-shirt, and an opportunity to decorate with paints and powders for pops of colour. The day was filled with fun and festivities, as students and staff celebrated Pride together. /EMILY STONEHOUSE staff

Committee members from Pride in the Highlands were at the annual Hal High Colour Run to support the students.

# Corner Gallery open to new views

EMILY STONEHOUSE

*Editor*

Curator of the Corner Gallery David Partridge has worked diligently to create a space where artists feel safe to express themselves, and push the limits of their creativity. /EMILY STONEHOUSE staff

Entering the Corner Gallery is an experience unto itself.

And that's the way it's supposed to be. The gallery is set up in a house.

An original home - built in the early 1920s - that has stood at the corner of Maple Avenue for longer than most residents can recall.

And it's fitting that the gallery calls an old house its home.

Because the way it weaves and winds, there's a personality to the place. It's not white-walled and clinical. It's got a rustic nature to it. A crystal chandelier hangs in the front entryway. Warm wood panels hug the doorways. In one room, there's an old safe tucked into the corner; clearly weighing so much that it cannot be moved, the floor varnish only painted to the edges of the room's staple furniture piece.

It's whimsical and eclectic and above all: accessible.

That's the goal for curator David Partridge, who has a background in art, but never felt like he had a place in it. That's why he wanted to create a space where everyone - in the arts world and far beyond - has a place at the table.

Partridge recently launched his second show in the space, titled *The View From Up Here* at the end of May. "I was hoping to make the show really open to interpretation," he said, glancing around the vivid pieces adorning the walls. "I wanted the theme to be loose, to see what people would come up with."

The show follows the highly popular exhibit *Wintershades*, which was on display over the colder season. While the pieces highlighted a wealth of local and visiting artists, and was met with great success, Partridge shared that he was happy to take it off the walls. "It felt good taking it down," he laughed. "I noticed people aren't as interested in winter paintings. You don't see them up as much in people's houses, and it was a long winter. Putting this show up felt so good."

> *"I wanted the theme to be loose, to see what people would come up with ..."*
>
> — Corner Gallery Curator David Patridge

The show isn't necessarily designed to be season-specific. As Partridge said, he gave the artists full reign to explore what *The View From Up Here* meant. "When I came up with the name, it was when political tension was high," he said, referencing the number of recent elections, both in Canada and the U.S. "I think artists were feeling unstable in the world, just like everyone else, and as a result, people were trying new things."

For some, the view looked like angles out the window, or the observation of their own bodies. For others, it is a tranquil forest, or the back of a companion's head. Open to interpretation, in every sense of the word.

With pottery, oil, pastel, and collage, the common theme amongst techniques seems to be 'mixed media', with Partridge sharing that many artists pushed the boundaries of their comfort zones to create a variety of pieces.

And Partridge knows all the artists personally. "I won't work with people I don't like," he chuckled. "And displaying the work of people I know, there's nothing better than that. That's the community I've been looking for."

And he's found it, here, at the Corner Gallery. He formed it himself, with what started as a simple open-door-policy coffee and chat quickly evolved into a weekly meeting of the minds, where artists of all forms gather and gab. Several of the current artists on display started out as early members of the Coffee Club.

And Coffee Club is one name. Partridge noted that it has a variety of names; coffee house, the Circle, art therapy.

Everyone who comes gets something different out of it, and the group is ever-changing; always open and welcoming more to join the weekly Thursday afternoon sessions. "When new people come, they generally become regulars," he said.

Because at its heart, the Corner Gallery isn't just an art gallery; you can feel that. It's a home, rich with stories and tales of days gone by. Memories and music, colour and chaos; the personality of the place.

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# Steve unplugged

FIRST OFF, let me just say that, despite the title, this column isn't about the last time I used a laxative. No sir, it's far worse than that. It's about a time when the circumstance made the use of laxatives wholly unnecessary.

**STEVE GALEA**
*Beyond 35*

The circumstance I'm speaking of is one every angler and boater has at one time or another experienced. I'm talking about that horrible instant when you are in the deep water 50 feet off the boat ramp and you suddenly realize that you left the plug for your boat in the car. And not the one you towed the boat with either.

Why 50 feet? Well, because that's how far the average unplugged boat can go before you realize that you are ankle deep in a puddle. Coincidentally, that's also how long it takes for the average outboard motor to stall.

What happens next says a lot about your priorities. If you do not choose correctly, you can find yourself in a lot of trouble too.

For instance, your initial instinct will probably be to politely ask your spouse or friend to hand you the personal flotation device he or she is sitting on, and then promptly wrap it around your tackle box. Obviously, that is the wrong thing to do.

The correct thing to do is calmly say, "Hey, can you check to see if the anchor rope is tied up front?" Then, as your spouse or friend is complying, carefully sneak the PFD out from under him or her…

The next priority, of course, is to stop water from entering into the boat.

When it comes to dealing with this problem there are many options. The quickest, and most common, is to look for something to plug the boat's unsealed drain hole with. Many people will used the tried-and-true method of plugging the leak with their finger. This works well. But someone else's finger works even better.

Either way, the downside is that it is also embarrassing, especially when you find yourself sitting in the emergency room with a 14-foot aluminium boat stuck onto your finger. Generally, you wait a long time before they can find a bigger ring cutter too.

Luckily there are other ways to prevent a boat from taking in too much water while you frantically paddle back to the landing. One is to tell everyone to bail. Unfortunately, more often than not, the smarter passengers will take this as permission to leap out of the boat and swim to shore, so they can laugh at you along with everyone else.

The odd time though, you'll be lucky to be with a non-swimmer. These people are the best bailers. I once saw my uncle, a non-swimmer, bail out a boat filled to the gunnels using only a bottle cap. Afterwards he asked, "How did my personal floatation device get wrapped around your favourite tackle box? And why did you ask me to check the anchor rope when you don't even have an anchor?"

Later, when I thought we could all look back on the situation and laugh, I told him exactly what had occurred.

He did in fact appear to be amused, especially as we recounted the entire incident. Which was good, because, when you are waiting in an emergency room with your finger stuck in the drain hole of a 14-foot aluminium boat, you have a lot of time for small talk.

# What local government actually does (and why it matters)

OVER THE past year, we've been focused on big elections – first provincial, then the recent federal one. These are important moments that shape policy and programs at the national and provincial levels (think immigration, health care, highways and trade).

But there's another level of government that often flies under the radar – one that has a direct, daily impact on our lives: municipal government. And in just over a year, in October 2026, we'll head to the polls again to elect our local leaders.

In Haliburton County, we have what's called a two-tier municipal system. That means local government is shared between the County and the lower-tier municipalities: Dysart et al., Minden Hills, Highlands East, and Algonquin Highlands.

**JESSICA SLADE**
*Plain Talk Politics*

The County of Haliburton is responsible for providing broader, county-wide services, including paramedic services, regional roads, and economic development. The lower-tier municipalities – such as Dysart et al. – handle more localized services, including landfills, snow removal, recreation centres, fire services, and land use planning.

So while it might not always be obvious, different levels of local municipal government work together (and sometimes separately) to deliver the services we rely on every day.

It's easy to overlook these roles – especially since municipal elections tend to get far less attention than provincial or federal ones. But local government is where democracy feels personal. It's where you can show up to a council meeting, send an email to your mayor, or speak up at a public consultation and actually see the results in your neighbourhood.

A great example? The County of Haliburton just wrapped up a public survey to help guide its new Strategic Plan – a kind of roadmap that can help the council decide what to prioritize over the next several years.

The Strategic Plan sets the vision for where the county is headed. It's built with public input and approved by the County Council. It tells decision-makers where to focus – whether it's tackling housing affordability, improving community transportation, protecting our environment, or creating economic opportunities.

Put simply: the Strategic Plan is about shaping the kind of community we want – for ourselves and for the next generation. And your voice helps shape that plan.

If you missed the survey, you can still stay involved – residents can subscribe for updates on the project and see what's next by visiting wadein.haliburtoncounty.ca/strategic-plan

These kinds of decisions shape everything from the price of your property taxes to the condition of your roads to the zoning rules that determine whether your neighbourhood can grow.

And here's the kicker: less than 40 per cent of eligible voters in Ontario usually cast a ballot in municipal elections. That means decisions about our housing, infrastructure, and community services are often made by representatives elected by a small fraction of the population.

This column is about changing that. It's about understanding how power works – and how we can use our voices not just every four years but in everyday ways that help shape the place we call home right now.

So the next time you drive on a county road, borrow a book from the library, drop your child off at the arena, or visit the landfill – that's local government in action.

And it's worth paying attention to.

Mark your calendar!

## Waste Management Events

**New To You Community Yard Sale**
**Saturday, July 19, 2025 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.**
**Parking lot of A.J. LaRue Arena, 728 Mountain Street**
Are you seeking that hidden treasure? Looking for a bargain? Ready to start upcycling? Shop 35 yard sales all in one spot!
dysartetal.ca/newtoyou

**Household Hazardous Waste Day**
**Saturday, July 26, 2025 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.**
**Haliburton Landfill, 222 Industrial Park Road, Haliburton**
County of Haliburton residents can drop-off acceptable household hazardous waste with the corrosive, explosive, flammable, and poison symbol. dysartetal.ca/hhw

**Household Hazardous Waste Day**
**Saturday, August 9, 2025 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**
**Harcourt Landfill, 1123 Packard Road, Harcourt**
County of Haliburton residents can drop-off acceptable household hazardous waste with the corrosive, explosive, flammable, and poison symbol. dysartetal.ca/hhw

**Household Hazardous Waste Day**
**Saturday, September 13, 2025 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.**
**West Guilford Landfill, 11903 Hwy 118, West Guilford**
County of Haliburton residents can drop-off acceptable household hazardous waste with the corrosive, explosive, flammable, and poison symbol. dysartetal.ca/hhw

**Great Haliburton Clothing Swap**
dysartetal.ca/clothingswap
**Haliburton School of Art + Design, 297 College Drive**
*September 29 to October 3:* Drop-off clean and gently-used clothing and accessories.
*October 4, 2025:* At no cost, pick-up, gently-used clothing and accessories from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. While quantities last.

Municipality of Dysart et al
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www.dysartetal.ca
705-457-1740

## Home Hardware Building Centre - Artist of the Month
## Destiny Madigan

Welcoming our June Artist of the Month, Destiny Madigan

Destiny is our youngest artist to participate so far!

Destiny learned her beading skills at the Tobique (Neqotkuk) First Nations reserve in New Brunswick along the Tobique River, where she attended school. The materials used are genuine leather and two millimetre seed beads, using the loom method. She has been practicing her technique and uses traditional and modern beading designs.

Her Indigenous roots lay with her great grandmother, who was part of the Iroquois (or Six Nations), specifically the Mohawk peoples. Her great grandmother was enrolled in the Mohawk Institute Residential School in Ontario. This was one of the residential schools run by the Anglican Church for Iroquois children. These schools disregarded the Iroquois peoples traditions and the institution focused on their Christian teachings and manual labour. Her great grandmother was married at 12 years old to an older Irish Catholic man who was a farmer.

Destiny enjoys hearing stories from her great grandmother and learning anything she can about Iroquois traditions and their heritage. She is always willing to learn more as both her and her mother are reconnecting their roots and had not known their family until later in life.

The colour featured this month is a custom colour, matched to the Iroquois flag.

For custom orders, email brittany_madigan_3003@hotmail.ca

# Nature in your backyard

Moose by Tammy Nash

Painted turtle by Jill Moulton

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# Editor's Thoughts

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Send your letters to the editor to emily@haliburtonpress.com. Letters must be signed and include a phone number.

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## One day

When the day begins, I run my fingers through my son's sleepy head, lying next to mine. His hair feels like the soft down that sheds from the dog's back after a long winter. Wispy and warm.

It's changing, though. The blond strands get thicker with age and sunshine.

**EMILY STONEHOUSE**
*County Life Editor*

I think about booking his first haircut. A plan for the future. A hope for the next day.

Before eggs and toast, with the older kids propped on their kitchen stools and my son safely strapped into a high chair, babbling and cooing and singing and giggling, my husband and I see the news.

The numbers are in. Over 50,000 children killed or injured in the Gaza Strip. And that's just a guess. It's much more likely that it's significantly higher.

I watch the kids in front of me clang their spoons to their bowls along with the music on the radio. I look down at a picture of a little girl sitting in rubble, her face marred with soot and ash. She's only ever known war. She's never seen a flower bloom.

As the day goes on, we fill our time. A walk through the forest, a movie with lunch. In the afternoon, we head into town in search of carrot cake and a foamy coffee. The kids hold hands while they walk down the sidewalk.

Inside the cafe, two separate tables are talking about the online dispute between Donald Trump and Elon Musk. Two men who spit and clawed their way past a competent and capable woman to secure their seats of power.

Because women are too emotional to lead.

The tables are talking with comedic awe, but a sense of sadness weighs down their words. We add humour to the fall-out of the chauvinistic charades; if we don't laugh at the absurdity of the situation, surely we will cry from the reality: the truth that these cruel men in power hold our futures in the palms of their sweaty hands.

After our outing we settle in at home. Spaghetti Sundays. A weekly tradition. With the red sauce boiling and bubbling on the stovetop, my husband cracks a bottle of wine and we cheers our day together. The kids are curled up with blocks and pillow forts in the living room, while Ella Fitzgerald dances *Cheek to Cheek*.

The pasta boils, and we catch wind of the riots in Los Angeles. We talk about why people are targeted for crossing borders. No one looks twice when we buy lemons from India, avocados from Mexico, t-shirts from Bangladesh, iPhones from China.

But people. Individuals looking for fresh starts, for safety, for the hope of a prosperous dream. They're the problem.

In a world that feels heavy, there is no solution. Throwing our heads in the sand won't keep the world from spinning. Dedicating our lives to advocacy and change is a streamlined path to burnout. What is the answer. Why is the middle line so lonely.

How do we continue living a life of both? A life where we stand in a place of freedom and relative stability, while the world burns around us? The constant tug of war, the dichotomization of good and bad creates a tennis-match of feelings. Back and forth, back and forth. Every moment of happiness, tarnished by the state of the world. Every moment of reflection, accompanied by guilt for our surroundings, our privilege. Each and every day. One day at a time.

If we cannot fight, we must care. If we cannot change, we must believe. If we cannot see a light, we must have hope.

Hope in the form of buying a size up for my toddler, knowing he will grow stronger one day soon. Hope in the form of planting a seed, and believing one day it will bloom. Hope in the simple act of waking up, and having a shower; a step taken to embrace a day ahead. Hope in changing the calendar pages, in greeting a loved one at an airport, in planning a coffee date.

When the day ends, I watch the sun dip behind the trees. The girls are up in their rooms, excitedly engrossed in their new books. They think they've won against their parents by being allowed to stay up late for one more chapter. In reality, it's the other way around.

As the sun says goodbye, the moon begins to climb into the indigo sky. We make a wish on the first star.

And I run my fingers through my son's sleepy head, lying next to mine.

## Top 10 reasons bugs bite the other guy

THERE'S ALWAYS one person in the group that the bugs seem to love. And, while that's fantastic if it isn't you, it can also leave a person feeling a little insecure. After a while, you might even ask yourself, "What's wrong with me? What does he have that I don't?"

Well, here are the top 10 things you might consider.

**STEVE GALEA**
Humour Columnist

1. Overall, he/she puts out a more welcoming, bug-friendly vibe.
2. Better Yelp reviews.
3. Your sunscreen coverage makes you look like a basted turkey.
4. They've got a rare blood type. The bugs are feeling adventurous.
5. It's mostly about the holes you cut in the back of his/her bug jacket.
6. You are acting way too desperate.
7. He/she obviously has slower reflexes.
8. It's your tail. Your tail scares them, OK?
9. The heart wants what the heart wants.
10. It's not you. It's your pet bat.

## Flames

Flames blazing through the haze, smoke choking Air,
Wind stoking the wildfires that scorch the forest floor, torching trees,
devouring their limbs and leaves, 'till all that remains is the charred bones of trees,
poking from the earth, like funeral pyres, as the fire rages and rampages,
spreading to other forests, burning them bare, searing Air,
making it hard to breathe for those who flee the billows of black smoke,
leaving behind their Homes that have crumbled to rubble, the fire, charring forests, scarring the earth,
as a blood red Sun singes Sky, and homeless eyes peer upwards and at each other,
praying for Rain to drown the flames that devoured their Homes and ravaged the land,
that they've known since birth,
feeling the infernal heat sear their Breath and bones, as they seek shelter and sleep, away from the wildfires,
not knowing what the next day will bring, whether embers will spark fresh flames, fanned by Wind,
or whether Rain will bring a reprieve, so the earth and forests and those who fled, can breathe,
displaced from their beds, trying to sleep in a strange place instead,
wondering whether they will be able to rebuild on the scorched patch of earth, that cradled them from birth,
the forests, fringing Lakes, blackened to their roots,
as charcoal clouds swell above them, smothering Air, swallowing Sun,
while we watch the wildfires blaze on a T.V. screen, from the dimness of a cool room, windows, sealed,
trees billowing in their green sleeves of leaves, Outside, the fires, far away,
but I wonder, as I glance away from the screen and peer out the window,
watching the branches sway in the haze,
leaves, grazing the leaves of neighbouring trees, whether they feel it too, from their crowns to their roots,
their con-freres that grew in the forest, now charred carcasses scarring the forest floor,
the thickness in the Air, that we breathe and share, all of us, intertwined, like the sprawling roots of trees,
their branches flailing beneath a blood red Sun,
waiting for rivers of Rain to flood the flames.

*Sylvie Kalenda*

# Nature in your backyard

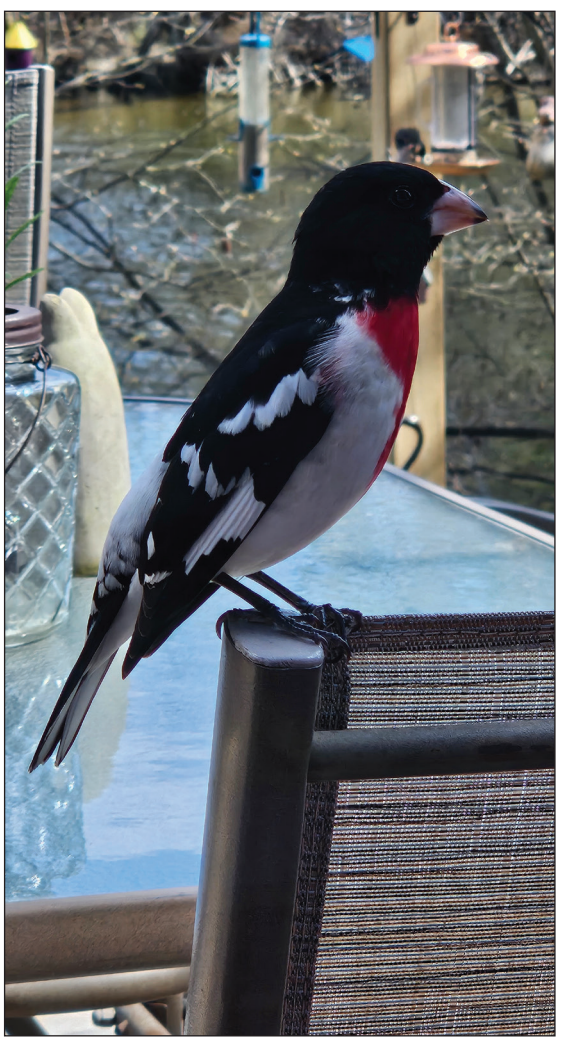
*County Life* welcomes photo submissions depicting life in the Highlands. Email emily@ haliburtonpress.com. Please ensure images are high resolution - 200 dpi, 10 inches at its longest edge.

Nosey fisher by Tammy Nash

Blue Heron by Jill Moulton

Northern Flicker by Vivien Mausz

Hare by Ella Hall



Evening Grosbeak by Yvonne Friend

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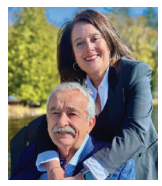

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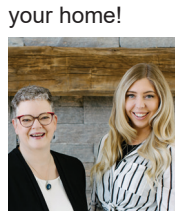

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# Free dance classes launch in Haliburton

**EMILY STONEHOUSE**
*County Life* Editor

The first sessions of free dance classes at Head Lake Park took place this week, where community members of all ages were welcome to learn some new moves. Yasmin Schoenke showcased some traditional dances of Indian heritage, Arabic traditions and Gujarati songs and dances. /ADAM FRISK

Looking for something a little different this summer? The team at Dysart recreation has just the thing: free dance classes for the month of June. "I wanted to apply for a ParticipACTION Community Move Challenge grant and was trying to think of something different that hasn't been offered before in Dysart," said Andrea Mueller, the manager of programs and events for the municipality. "The grant deadline was quick, so I did not try to poll the community for ideas, it was just something I thought might be of interest."

The classes are taught in Head Lake Park on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and are designed to showcase the rich heritage or India, Arabic traditions, Gujarati songs and dances, and Kiswahili African rhythms,

"The instructor is Yasmin Schoenke, a resident of Haliburton County. She has been dancing all her life and teaching dance for over 30 years," said Mueller. She noted that Schoenke also volunteers to teach dance at the Gardens of Haliburton, Extendicare, and the Bancroft Manor. "She is well received by the residents," said Mueller, "and we thought she would be a great fit for offering classes at Head Lake Park."

And these classes are for anyone. Mueller noted that originally, the plan was to offer one class a week indoors at the auditorium of the arena, and one class outdoors. But that plan quickly changed, as the team realized that the outdoors are more accessible to everyone. "It also lends itself better to drop-ins and for people just passing by to join in," said Mueller. "We are hopeful that Extendicare and The Gardens of Haliburton may even bring some of their residents to the park for an outing."

The drop-in style of the class allows anyone interested in dance to check out the free classes. Mueller noted that there is no limit for age or ability. Folks can even participate from a chair, if needed. "We encourage all to come out and give it a try," she said. "Yasmin even brings props with her and outfits that participants can try on and use."

Mueller shared that the programming is part of a ParticipACTION Challenge, which revolves around the concept of getting people out and moving. During the first class of the season, Mueller noted the variety of people who came out to participate. "People can relate to music and may start moving without even realizing it," she said.

The free dance lessons are Tuesdays until June 24 at 11 a.m., and Thursdays, until June 27 at 7 p.m. All levels and ages are welcome at the Bandshell in Head Lake Park.

# Legion Events

### Branch 441 Kinmount

**Monday:** Bid euchre 1 p.m.
**Tuesday:** Last Tuesday of the month-liver luncheon with one alternative 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
**Kids Bingo starts July 8, 6 p.m.** donations appreciated
**Wednesday:** Mixed darts 7:30 p.m.
**Thursday:** Members general meeting (3rd week) 7:30 p.m.
**Friday:** Chair yoga 10 a.m. BBQ 5 to 7 p.m., Bingo, doors open at 5 p.m. play at 6:45 p.m.
**Saturday:** Meat draw 5:30 p.m. Club Room open 4 p.m.
**Sunday:** Ladies Auxiliary meeting (members only) 3rd week at 2 p.m.
**Special events: May 11** Mother's day breakfast $13.00/person

Hall rentals available at reasonable prices. Call 705-488-3462 or 705-928-7105. We welcome everyone to our events and we look forward to seeing you!

### Branch 129 Haliburton

**Mondays:** Bridge 1 p.m. Schofield Rm. Youth darts 6:30 to 8 p.m. Clubroom 10 to 18 years of age. All are welcome, no experience necessary
**Tuesdays:** League darts 7 p.m.
**Wednesdays**: Bid Euchre 1 p.m. start – Main Hall. Bingo doors open at 6 p.m. Bingo 7 p.m. FirstWed of each month with jackpot. Follow Facebook.com/Branch129 Bingo for the most up-to-date information
**Thursdays**: General Meeting third Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m. All members urged to attend. Ladies Auxiliary last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.
**Fridays:** Five meat draw, five prizes each draw, first draw 4:30 p.m., last draw 6:30 p.m. Tickets $2 per draw. Paul Sisson, MC. Friday fun darts from 4:30 p.m. and onwards. 50/50 Draw 5:40 p.m.
*Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, call Cheryl Waller at 905-447-7741, email haliburtonlegionrentals@gmail.com or visit haliburtonlegion.com. Everyone is welcome!*
Club room hours: Mon. 3 to 6 p.m., Tues. 3 to 9 p.m., Wed/Thurs. 3 to 6 p.m. Fri. 3 to 7 p.m.

### Branch 636 Minden

**Lunch - Monday to Friday**
**Monday:** Rug Hookers every second week. Bid Euchre 1 to 3 p.m.
**Tuesday:** Food 5 p.m. Canoe FM Bingo 6 p.m.
**Thursday:** Cribbage 1 to 3 p.m., Darts 7 to 9 p.m. and Euchre 7 to 9 p.m.
**Every other Friday:** Karaoke 8 to 11 p.m.
**Friday** Fish & Chips, Wings. Lunch 11a.m. to 2 p.m. and Dinner 4 to 7 p.m.
**Saturday** All Day Breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with three Meat draws at 11 a.m.
Call ahead any day for take-out:
705-286-4541. Schedules are subject to change without notice. Check our Facebook page Minden Legion Branch 636 for more info.

### Branch 624 Wilberforce

**Hours - Sunday: Special Events Only, Monday: 7 to 10 p.m., Tuesday: Closed, Wednesday: 2 to 10 p.m., Thursday: 2 to 6 p.m., Friday: 2 to 11 p.m., Saturday: 2 to 9 p.m.**
**Mondays** - June 16, 23, 30 – Darts, $5/player, 7 p.m.
**Wednesdays** - June 18, 25 – Darts, $4/player, 2 p.m.
June 18, 25 Horseshoes, $5/player, 7 p.m.
**Fridays** - June 13, 27 - Fish & Chips, 5 to 8 p.m. $15 for 1 piece $20 for 2 pieces
June 20 - Wings and Jam Session, $15/lb, 5 to 8 p.m.
June 13, 27 - Seniors 55+ Lunch, $17, noon
**Saturdays** - June 14, 21, 28, - Meat Draw, 3 p.m.
June 14 - Horseshoes Tournament, 11 a.m. Registration, $20, Live Music, Cash Prizes, Food available for purchase
June 14 – Karaoke, 8 p.m.to 1 a.m.
Call the Legion for more info 705-448-2221

# Stanhope Museum Committee prepares for late-June opener

**THOMAS SMITH**
*County Life* Staff

/FILE

The Stanhope Museum committee says that they are making great progress towards their re-opening at the end of June. Currently, the committee is hard at work rearranging exhibits, installing new ones and mounting a television provided from the township.

The Stanhope Museum sits in the former council chambers building from 1910. Renovated in 2007, the museum has recently closed off their windows to provide additional exhibit space. Blocking off the windows has provided a neutral backdrop and a window ledge for incoming exhibits.

Utilizing every square foot of space, the Stanhope Museum keeps visitors engaged around every corner. From snippets of "did you know" factoids in the exhibits, to a working log chute, and an artifact guessing cabinet, the museum committee keeps on top of the latest museum exhibit techniques to keep things fresh and interesting.

This year, the committee is bringing back the display showcasing the life and history of settler Thomas Mason and his family. Mason, an early pioneer to Stanhope, meticulously wrote facts and information of his day-to-day activities. These journals are now in the possession of Algonquin Highlands township. A treasure trove of historical content, the committee posts excerpts from Mason's journals regularly on their Facebook page. Everything from sending counting minnows he caught, to where he purchased groceries that day is detailed.

The museum also is home to the Algonquin Highlands Heritage Map Project. A gold mine of familial history, information about Haliburton County, and research data, the project has a table set up with binders of copies of papers such as census information and property boundaries, letting anyone look up a settler that lived in the area or a property within the township. The project even made its information publicly available through heritagemapsalgonquin.com allowing anyone from around the world to view information about Algonquin Highlands' heritage.

"Come and see who used to own your cottage property," joked Carol Moffatt, museum committee member.

Deep within the township offices in Stanhope hosts the vault of artifacts pertaining to AH's history. Without public access, the Stanhope Museum acts as the gateway for AH's rich historical information. With volunteers regularly posted at the museum to greet visitors and answer questions, often it is only through the volunteers where you can learn about the increase of UFO sightings at Boshkung Lake in the 1970s.

Along the east wall, an exhibit showcases the Martin brothers. Kenneth, Harry, and Gord Martin were brothers who collected military vehicles on their property on Buckslide Road. Both Harry and Gord were Veterans. Referred to as the 'Stanhope's Army,' visitors flocked from all over to visit the Martin brothers' collection of military vehicles including six trucks, four engine carriers, one half-truck and five Jeeps.

Around the corner, the working scale model of the log chute remains in working condition (while the real Hawk Lake Log Chute remains in desperate need of repair).

Around the corner in another windowsill, there is a display showcasing the Highway 35 committee. The committee was a group dedicated to bringing the scenic highway to the county. Today, Highway 35 remains a major artery for the lifeblood of visitors and residents alike.

On the left hand wall when you enter the museum, a plaque reminds you that we are settlers on this land. A map and history of the Williams Treaties First Nations can be seen.

Underneath, a shelf is filled with citron marmalade made by the museum committee.

Citron melons are grown outside the museum in a garden patch behind the building. Originally, the seeds for the citron melons came from the Mason family farm. Every year, the citron seeds are harvested, meaning that they continue to grow generation after generation of the same fruit that the Mason family grew. The citron melons are kept in cold storage until the spring to allow the fruits to build up pectin. The melons are then cooked down with lemon, orange, and ginger to create a marmalade that is all things tart, zesty and sweet. The jars of marmalade are sold in the museum with the funds going directly back into the museum itself.

Moffatt estimates that the Stanhope Museum receives around 400 visitors per year. Covered top to bottom in historical facts and artifacts from Algonquin Highlands, the Stanhope Museum remains a true testament to the rich history of the area, as well as the dedication of the museum committee's volunteers. Without the volunteers, there would likely be no museum that is free of charge to visit. The township is committed to sharing their heritage and sharing their stories.

The museum's nearly 40 volunteers are well deserving of the yearly luncheon that is provided to them.

"Everybody is friends," said Moffatt. "There are a lot of friendships that have developed through the years."

The Stanhope Museum will be opening the last weekend in June. The museum is open from Wednesday to Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the summer.

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## Fancy dance

Dancers of all ages hit the stage the first weekend of June for four shows between Friday to Sunday, as a part of the annual year-end recital for Skyline Dance Studios. This is the third year the studio has showcased their performers, and the shows combined a mixture of recreational dancers as well as pre-competitive dancers, offering a variety of styles and skill-sets for the four sold-out shows. /ADAM FRISK

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# Community Events

**Send your event listing to classifieds@haliburtonpress.com**

**Haliburton Environmental AGM**
When: Saturday, June 28 at 10 a.m.
Where: Haliburton United Church
10 George St., Haliburton
Topic: How vulnerable is Haliburton County to Wildfires? Guest Speaker Zach Decock. Zach will speak first, followed by refreshments and a short business meeting with election of directors. For more info: Susan Hay 705-457-9239.

**Canada Day Open House at Walkabout Farm**
When: Tuesday, July 1st from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Where: 1105 Spring Valley Road, Minden
Admission by donation. Activities include: Animal meet-and-greets with our therapy horses, Rock painting and outdoor games, Vendor market with local businesses, Scenic walking trails, silent auction. All proceeds from the event go directly toward funding participant sessions and the ongoing care of our therapy horses and small animals.

**Easy Gardening: High Style. Low Maintenance**
When: July 8, 7 p.m.
Where: Minden Community Centre,
55 Parkside St., Minden
Summer is for gardeners! Please join the Minden & District Horticultural Society at the Minden Community Centre. Guest speaker Pat de Valence will be discussing 'Easy Gardening: High Style. Low Maintenance', followed by the monthly society meeting. New members welcome!

**Youth Members Program**
When: July 8, 4 to 5 p.m.
Kids aged 6 years or older who want to learn about gardening are welcome to join the Horticultural Society Youth Members Program. Email for details: minden.jr.hort.club@gmail.com

**Health Care Auxiliary Tag Day**
When: Friday, July 11
Where: Various locations in downtown Minden and along Hwy 35 from 9:30 a.m. to approximately 2:30 p.m. Boshkung Social 2 to 6 p.m. Major fundraising event for the Health Care Auxiliary with all proceeds being donated to various services at the Minden Health Hub right here at the Minden HHHS site. Please donate generously.

**Community Yard Sale**
When: Saturday July 12
Where: 20 George St, Haliburton – North Entrance Masonic Temple Parking lot
Rent a spot – bring your table – sell your stuff. Spot rentals from $15. Book your spot early – space is limited. Hosted by North Entrance Masonic Lodge. No.463. BBQ. - Pie Sale - Bake Table- Open House. For more info or to book your spot contact nelyardsale@victoriadistrict.com

**Norwood Country Jamboree**
When: July 17 to 20
Where: Peterborough
For tickets call 1-800-954-9998

**Ohana Music Festival**
When: Friday, Aug. 22 to Sunday, Aug. 24
Where: Minden Fairgrounds

### *Recurring events*

**Gift Shop Sale Table**
When: Every Friday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Where: The Gift Shop at the Highland Crest LTC Home
We are having a sale table every Friday in the months of May and June. Prices will be slashed and there will be different items every week. Our gift shop is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 12 to 3 and Friday (sale day) 10 to 1.

**Friends of the Haliburton County Public Library New Book Nook Hours**
When: 1st, 3rd Tuesday of the month - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Where: Minden Hills Branch, 176 Bobcaygeon Rd. Minden
Choose from a variety of gently read books: thrillers, mysteries, romance, biographies, children and youth selections, Canadian authors, fiction, science fiction/fantasy, sports, spiritual and other non-fiction books. Bring a reusable bag. Payment is by cash donation. All money raised supports library enhancements and programmes for all libraries in the county.

**ridge for Seniors**
When: Mondays at 1 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Schofield Room
All welcome.

**Haliburton Legion Walking Group**
When: Mondays at 9 to 10 a.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Remembrance Hall
A safe walking environment. Lead by an Occupational therapist.

**Free Balanced Fitness, Active Social Senior Classes**
When: Every second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 10 to 11 a.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Remembrance Hall
All seniors are welcome. Group led by Registered Recreation Therapist

**Bid Euchre**
When: Wednesdays at 1 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Remembrance Hall
All welcome!

**Seniors Chair Exercises**
When: Thursdays at 1 p.m.
Where: St. George's Anglican Church,
617 Mountain Street
Please join us for safe and gentle exercises for seniors to help with balance, strength and flexibility. Free to join.

**Cards/Euchre/Cribbage**
When: Thursdays at 2:30 p.m.
Where: St. George's Church
617 Mountain Street
Lakeside Church Service
When: Sunday at 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.
Where: 9 Park Street, Haliburton.
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**Weekly Meat Rolls**
When: Every Saturday, 3 p.m.
Where: Coboconk Legion, Hwy 48 and 35
Join us for our weekly meat draw. Five spins for $10. First four rounds are for highest and lowest score with two winners per round. Last round is for a prepare-it-yourself dinner for two. Additional spins for this round are available for $2 each. Call 705-454-8127 or email info@coboconklegion.ca for more information.

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INSIDE THIS WEEK:

**THE MILL RESERVE**
*Kim Emmerson celebrates his business's 50th anniversary with a book on history*

**CYCLE THE POUNDS AWAY**
*Andrea Hagarty copes with stress and weight gain by cycling everywhere*

**PRAISE FROM THE GG**
*Bill Medland given Governor General award for being a caring Canadian*

THE ECHO
HALIBURTON COUNTY
TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 2007
www.haliburtonecho.ca
VOL. 124 NO. 24 $1.25 INCL. GST

# Main street tears into sign bylaw

GREG HOEKSTRA
*Staff Reporter*

Haliburton merchants sent a strong message to Dysart councillors last week, arguing that a ban on sandwich board signs would hurt local businesses.

Last Monday, the municipality held its first public meeting on its new draft sign bylaw, which would prohibit the use of portable signs – such as sandwich board or 'A-frame' signs – in Haliburton's downtown core. The bylaw would also forbid flashing signs and free-standing signs within town limits, and would regulate how much signage businesses can display in their store-front windows.

At the outset of the meeting, Councillor Derek Knowles said the proposed ban on sandwich boards was an attempt to make Haliburton's sidewalks more pedestrian-friendly.

"The intent is to make the sidewalks as accessible as possible," said Knowles. "Sandwich boards are getting out of control. They are all over the place and they add very little to the community."

But despite Knowles' senti-

*See* **Businesses** *page 4*

GREG HOEKSTRA/Echo

## Bohemian blaze of colour

Intermediate and senior ballet students were dazzling in their colourful costumes during the annual Haliburton Dance Arts recital at te Northern Lights Pavilion. There are more photos from the recital on page 19.

# 'There's a bear in my kitchen'

GREG HOEKSTRA
*Staff Reporter*

For the past 71 years, John Southcombe has made the trek from Cincinnati to his cottage on Lake Kashagawigamog to relax and unwind for the summer months. And by the time he arrives and unpacks he's understandably tired and hungry. This year there was a bit of a twist to his arrival.

Yesterday was hot and humid and because he'd just arrived, the cottage was stifling. So Southcombe opened the single cottage door to let a breeze through. He finished unpacking and made for the kitchen to fix himself a peanut butter and banana sandwich.

At about 10:30 a.m. he decided to have a nap and lay down in the bedroom not far from the kitchen. As he dozed off he was soon awoken by noises coming from the kitchen.

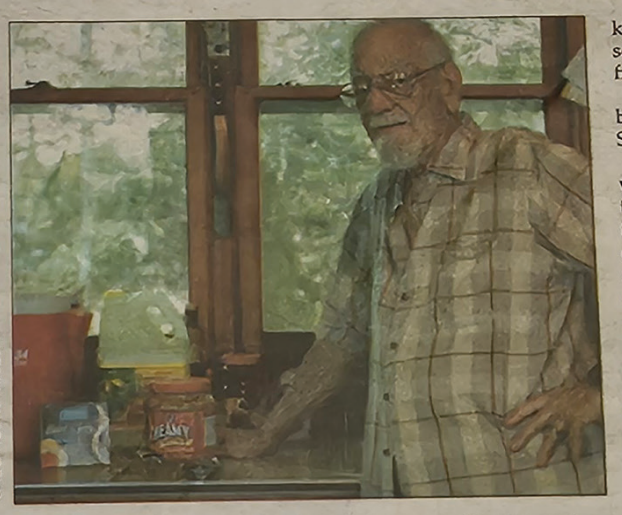
"I looked up and saw this big black dog in my kitchen," said Southcombe.

Confused as to why a dog would be in his kitchen he rose to investigate. As he reached the kitchen window he peered out to see a black bear, approximately three feet tall, weighing an estimated 200 lbs, sitting by a tree trying to open his jar of peanut butter with little success.

"I was shocked," said Southcombe after realizing a bear had just been in his kitchen.

He immediately called his friend Bill Davis, who then called the OPP. When the OPP

*See* **Police** *page 2*



GREG HOEKSTRA/Echo

John Southcombe shows where he left the peanut butter on the counter of his Lake Kashagawigamog cottage before having a nap. He awoke to find a bear trying to open the jar.

castle building centres
50
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# Haliburton's Local Real Estate Team

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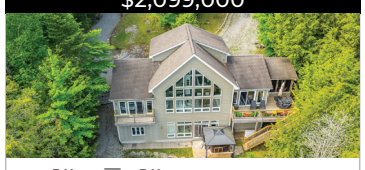
### KENNISIS LAKE
$2,099,000

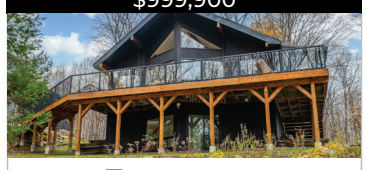


5 X BED | 3 X BATH | MLS# X12110017

### KENNISIS LAKE
$1,099,000

3 X BED | 2 X BATH | MLS# X12169805

### EAGLE LAKE
$999,900

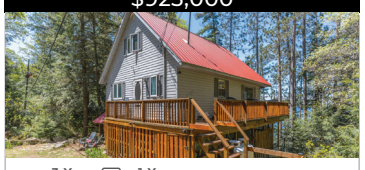


3 X BED | 2 X BATH | MLS# X12029422

### CANNING LAKE
$949,900
NEW PRICE

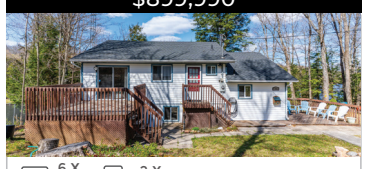
3 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12151314

### KENNISIS LAKE
$925,000



3 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12176356

### LONG LAKE
$899,990



6 X BED | 2 X BATH | MLS# X12146750

### HORSESHOE LAKE (ROAD BTWN)
$895,000
NEW PRICE

3 X BED | 3 X BATH | MLS# X12137855

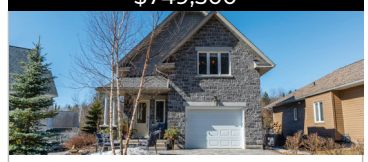
### HALIBURTON LAKE
$890,000
NEW PRICE

3 X BED | 2 X BATH | MLS# X12074153

### NEGAUNEE LAKE
$855,000
NEW PRICE

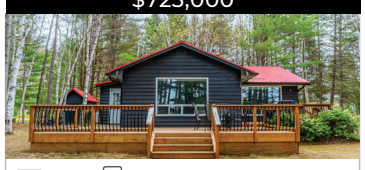
3 X BED | 2 X BATH | MLS# X12120338

### SILVER BEACH
$749,500



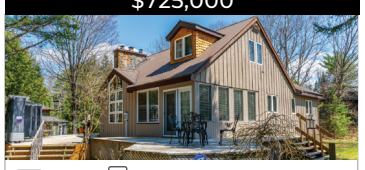
3 X BED | 4 X BATH | MLS# X12071612

### WILBERMERE LAKE
$725,000



3 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12138474

### KENNISIS RIVER
$725,000

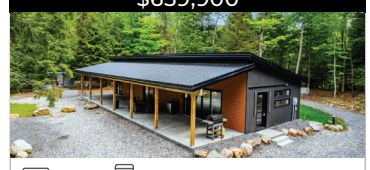


# X BED | # X BATH | MLS# X12137708

### HALIBURTON LAKE
$697,000
NEW PRICE

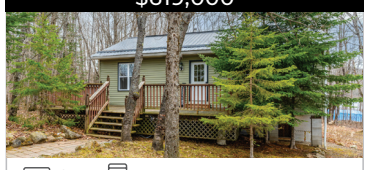
3 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12159564

### EAGLE LAKE AREA
$659,900



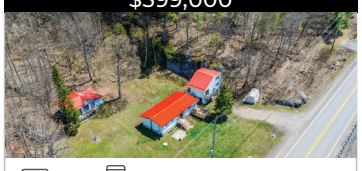
2 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12095585

### CRANBERRY LAKE
$619,000



2 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12101365

### KUSHOG LAKE (RD BETWEEN)
$599,000



4 X BED | 2 X BATH | MLS# X12140930

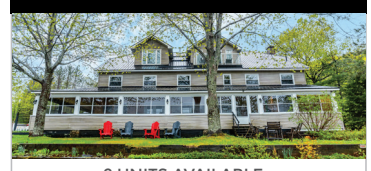
### WILBERFORCE
$499,000
NEW PRICE

3 X BED | 2 X BATH | MLS# X12093164

### LAKE LORRAINE
$529,900
NEW LISTING

3 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12210389

### OAKVIEW COLIVING



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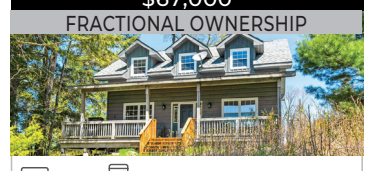
FRACTIONAL OWNERSHIP



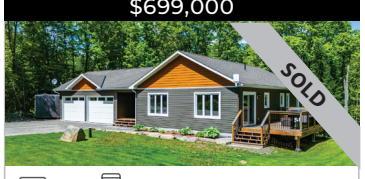
3 X BED | 2 X BATH | MLS# X11884689

### KOSHLONG LAKE
$899,000

SOLD

3 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12166694

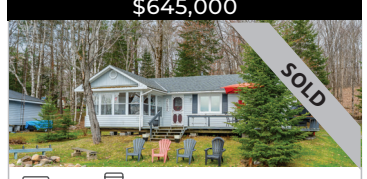
### HALIBURTON
$699,000



SOLD

3 X BED | 2 X BATH | MLS# X 12182080

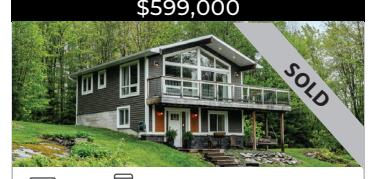
### KUSHOG LAKE
$645,000



SOLD

3 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12130572

### BOBCAYGEON ROAD
$599,000



SOLD

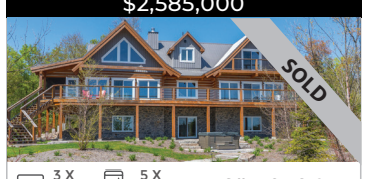
2 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12175990

### 12 MILE LAKE
$489,000

SOLD

3 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12155241

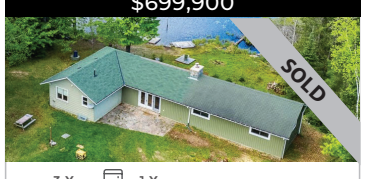
### REDSTONE LAKE
$2,585,000



SOLD

3 X BED | 5 X BATH | MLS# X12170193

### HEART LAKE
$699,900



SOLD

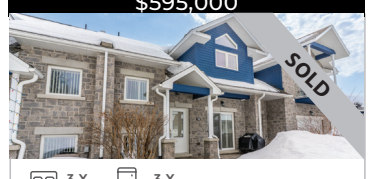
3 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12179568

### HALIBURTON
$568,000

SOLD

2 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12175116

### SILVER BEACH
$595,000



SOLD

3 X BED | 3 X BATH | MLS# X12019003

### GLAMOR LAKE
$599,000

SOLD

2 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12161505

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